I claim:

A network based scheduling method, comprising:

reading a bar code symbol representing a product item with a bar code reader having an internally stored user identification;

processing the data from the bar code symbol together with user options, and the user identification into a scheduling task and transmitting the information on the task from the reader over a wireless communication link connected to a network;

receiving the message at a registry node on a network;

processing the symbol product data, scheduling task and the user identification information at the registry node to determine the potential vendors of the product item; and

transmitting a message to the user over the wireless network at the scheduled time determined by the user with product information from potential vendors.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the registry node on the network is an Internet website.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the message is in the form of a e-mail including the data from the bar code symbol.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the e-mail includes information on the product item.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the registry node includes a database containing product source information.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the registry node on the network is an access point in a wireless local area network.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the message is in the form of a HTML script.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising providing access to a registry server network page through a URL containing the appropriate query strings necessary to present the appropriate page containing product features desired by a prospective purchaser to the destination station which is a prospective supplier of the product.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising cross-referencing the user ID and the user's IP address at the registry node on each association.

10. A method for using a portable digital assistant and a bar code reader to facilitate scheduling events, notifications, or transactions between a buyer and at least one of a plurrality of sellers of a product or service, utilizing a computer netework comprising:

reading a bar code symbol to input into a data base record in the portable digital assistant information with respect to a date , a product or service, and a recipient;

transmitting a registry request with the record over a computer network to a registry site on the network;

determining the potential suppliers on the network capable of providing the product or service identified in the record;

transmitting an inquiry over the network to the identified potential suppliers to determine the price and availability of the product or service;

receiving at the registry site responses to the inquiry from one or more potential suppliers; and

determining the current network location of the user and transmitting the responses at a predetermined schedule to the user.

11. A method as defined in claim 10, where the computer network is a wireless LAN.

12. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein the registry site completes a purchase transaction for the user by transmitting an acceptance to a potential supplier.

13. A method as defined in claim 10, wherein the step of determining the current network location of the user makes use of the stored user ID and the current IP address associated with the user ID.